

## REMARKS

Applicant request favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the March 23, 2009 Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 12, 17, and 19-20, are now pending, with claims 1, 12, and 17 being independent claims. Claims 1, 12, and 17 have been amended. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the originally-filed disclosure. Claims 19 and 20 have been added. Support for the new claims can be found, for example, at least at page 21, line 16 to page 22, line 6 and page 30, line 17 to page 32, line 7 of the specification and S906 of Fig. 9. Thus, Applicant submit that the amendments do not include new matter.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 9, 12, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,937,148 to Okazawa in view of Japanese Patent JP 06-264651 to Kon and U.S. Patent No. 6,347,202 to Shishizuka et al. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okazawa as modified by Kon and Shishizuka et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,795,829 to Alsop. Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections for the following reasons.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the feature of calculating a power consumption amount of the image apparatus for the specified user identification information, which identifies at least one of a user that uses the image processing apparatus and a department to which the user belongs, by multiplying the power consumption per unit time stored by the memory unit and the operation times timed by the timing unit. Further, the power consumption amount, as recited in Claim 1, is processed

for each user identification information. Applicant submits that the cited documents do not disclose or suggest at least these features.

Kon discloses calculating power consumption amount of an image processing apparatus. However, Applicant submits that Kon does not disclose or suggest calculating the power consumption amount for each user identification information. The other cited art fails to remedy the deficiencies of Kon.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least the calculating feature recited in independent Claim 1. Independent Claims 12 and 17 recite a similar feature and are believed patentable for reasons similar to independent Claim 1. The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian L. Klock', is written over a horizontal line.

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